

## Weights and Measures

### Meeting Notes

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**July 7, 2008 - 1 p.m.**

#### **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

- Sherry Turvey was hired as the new Administrative Specialist. She replaces Georgia Smalley, who retired.
- The department may sell a large-scale truck in August. Interested parties can call Tim Tyson at the Weights and Measures office.

#### **MAIN TOPICS**

- Customer Service – Weights and Measures staff will work on returning phone calls and providing answers in a more timely fashion.
- Conference calls/newsletter – Participants reported the conference call is a good idea and that future calls at a better time would be appreciated.
  - Participants want notes from the calls posted on the website so others can read what was discussed.
  - The program may generate an electronic newsletter after the legislative session to inform companies of changes to laws and regulations.
- Licensing
  - It was discussed whether technicians who have been licensed for several years and are in good standing could receive a multiyear license. Also discussed whether updates to handbooks, laws or regulations could be sent to individuals with multiyear licenses in years they will not renew their license. The state will look at what can be done under existing statutes, as they may have to recommend a change in the law to accomplish this.
  - An individual at a school commented that the state was not there to train technicians, which is incorrect. The state is there to train technicians about Kansas laws and regulations and about the handbooks. Each year the school is changed to reflect what is happening in the field. However, the state is not there to train new hires that have not been initially trained by their company. All agreed with this and participants mentioned getting the answers to the tests. The state will explore ways to get technicians answers to missed questions, so that everyone can learn from the tests.
- Witness Testing
  - Current policy requires service companies to notify the department 10 days before they test headhouse or hopper scales. This can be difficult during busier times of the year. Service companies said they could give a couple of weeks' notice of the approximate day or week testing would take place. If the state is interested, they can ask for an exact time as the week or day approaches.

- Rejected Scale Reports
  - The Weights and Measures program has heard that state inspectors' comments for rejecting a scale are sometimes vague. The program will work to make these comments clearer and to better describe the reason for a rejection to help facilitate repair.
  - Another issue that was raised relates to yellow tags issued for user requirements. These may be resolved by the store, if it is something simple like moving clutter, leveling a deli scale, etc.
- Metrology
  - The state will look at twice-a-year testing for weight carts. The state would also like to get to the point of doing truck testing (weights and cart) all at once. This would require some equipment changes, but it may be coming in the next couple of years.

I want to thank all who participated in the conference call, and I look forward to continuing our efforts to improve our Weights and Measures system.

Tim Tyson  
Director of Weights and Measures  
Kansas Department of Agriculture